



505 East Huntland Drive
Suite 250
Austin, TX 78752

512.329.6080 PHONE
512.329.8750 FAX

www.TRCSolutions.com

October 14, 2011

TRC Solutions Project No. 182978

Mr. Gary Moore
U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

**Re: Weekly Progress Report
Falcon Refinery Superfund Site
Ingleside, San Patricio County, Texas
TXD 086 278 058**

Dear Mr. Moore:

On behalf of the National Oil Recovery Corporation (NORCO), TRC Solutions (TRC) submits this Weekly Progress Report on the Removal Action Activities at the Falcon Refinery Federal Superfund Site to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for your review.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (512) 699-9931.

Sincerely,
TRC

Alonzo G. Arredondo
Senior Geologist

Attachment: Weekly Progress Report
cc: National Oil Recovery Corporation

WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT - Falcon Refinery Federal Superfund Site, Ingleside, TX;

1. COMPLETED PROJECT ACTIVITIES TO DATE

The project activities completed to date are listed below.

A. Removal of Sludge and Demolition of Tanks

The activities completed for tanks listed below include removal, decontamination, demolition and/or the removal/transportation of the tanks from the Falcon Refinery to Commercial Metals (CMC recycling) in Corpus Christi, TX:

- Tank 2 - The tank was removed from the property and recycled.
- Tank X1 - The tank was removed from the property and recycled.
- Tank X2 - The tank was removed from the property and recycled.
- Tank X3 - The tank was removed from the property and recycled.
- Tank 18 - The tank was removed from the property and recycled.
- Tank 17 - The tank was removed from the property and recycled.
- Tank 19 - The tank top was removed from the property and recycled. The waste has been placed in a box.
- Tank 21 - The tank top was removed and recycled. The waste is being managed on site.
- Tank 22 - The tank top was removed from the property and recycled. The waste has been placed in a box.
- Tank 23 - The tank top was removed and recycled. The waste is being managed on site.
- Tank 27 –The floor and lower side walls have been cleaned to facilitate inspection.

B. Sampling and Waste Characterization

Water samples were collected on May 10, 2011 from Tanks 20, 2 and 27 and submitted for chemical analysis.

Water samples were collected from Tanks 26, 10, 30 & 7 and submitted for chemical analysis on May 20, 2011.

A water sample was collected from Tank 26 for the purpose of characterizing the water for waste water treatment on July 26, 2011.

Preliminary sampling of Tanks 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, & 24 was conducted for the purpose of characterizing waste on September 9, 2011. Additional sampling for characterizing waste was conducted on September 22, 2011. Sample results were received on September 29, 2011.

A one-time shipment number for the transportation and disposal of the caustic material in Tank 20 has been received from the TCEQ.

A composite sample comprised of tank bottom sludge was collected from the north and south manways of Tank 30 on October 5, 2011 for the purpose of characterizing the waste in that tank.

C. Demolition / Relocation of Structures

A small structure was moved to facilitate access to Tanks 17 - 24 by the shear and 18-wheeler.

Pipes were removed to facilitate access to Tanks 19, 20 and 24.

2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES TO BE COMPLETED - *(Projected Schedule/ Established Deadlines to be developed)*

A. Demolition / Relocation of Structures

We are evaluating whether a small tank in the refinery should be removed to facilitate access and parking for the two shears and 18-wheelers.

B. Removal of Tank Tops

The following tanks have had the tops removed:

- Tank 17 - This tank has been topped, removed and recycled.
- Tank 18 - This tank has been topped, removed and recycled.
- Tank 19 - This tank has been topped, removed and recycled.
- Tank 20 - This tank will be topped, removed and recycled on October 20, 2011.
- Tank 21 - This tank has been topped, removed and recycled.
- Tank 22 - This tank has been topped, removed and recycled.
- Tank 23 - This tank has been topped, removed and recycled.
- Tank 24 - This tank will be topped, removed and recycled on October 17, 2011.

C. Removal and Transfer of sludge to Tank 26 or Offsite Disposal Facility

- Tank 27 sludge removal: The tank floor and lower walls have been cleaned.
- Tank 10 sludge removal: Activities continue to remove sludge from this tank with the use of two vacuum trucks.

- Tank 19, Tank 21, Tank 22 and Tank 23 sludge removal / demolition: Activities continue to manage the waste onsite before transporting the waste for disposal at an offsite facility;
- Tank 30 sludge removal: A cost proposal to complete the removal of sludge from this tank has been requested from the contractor. We anticipate receiving a proposal by October 17-21, 2011.
- Tank 7 sludge removal: A cost proposal to complete the removal of water and sludge from this tank has been requested from the contractor. We anticipate receiving a proposal by October 17-21, 2011.
- Tank 19 – Waste from this tank has been placed into a box for disposal. The waste from this tank is scheduled for transportation and disposal on October 17-21, 2011.
- Tank 20 – This tank is scheduled for the removal of the top on October 20, 2011.
- Tank 22 - Waste from this tank has been placed into a box for disposal. The waste from this tank is scheduled for transportation and disposal on October 17-21, 2011.
- Tank 24 – This tank is scheduled for the removal of the top on October 17, 2011.
- Tank N1 sludge removal / demolition: Currently under evaluation;
- Tank N2 sludge removal / demolition: Currently under evaluation;
- Tank Y1 sludge removal / demolition: Currently under evaluation;

D. Treatment of Water in Tank 26

We are currently waiting for a formal response from the TCEQ on their review of a waste water discharge permit that has been submitted on behalf of the Falcon Refinery.

3. COMPLETED PROJECT ACTIVITIES FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 10-14, 2011

A. Removal of Sludge

Tank 27 – The tank has been cleaned.

B. Demolition and Recycling

The demolition and recycling of the tanks listed below were completed this week. The tanks were sheared, loaded into an 18-wheeler at the Falcon Refinery and transported to

a recycling facility on Agnes Street in Corpus Christi, TX (Commercial Metals - CMC recycling).

- Tank 17
- Tank 18
- Tank 19
- Tank 21
- Tank 22
- Tank 23

D. Sampling and Waste Characterization

Tank 30 - A composite sample comprised of sludge from Tank 30 was collected on October 5, 2011 for the purpose of characterizing the waste in the tank. The sample was collected from the north and south man ways of the tank and submitted for chemical analysis.

4. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT WEEK – OCTOBER 17-21, 2011

A. Tank Bottom Sludge Removal

- Tank 10 – We plan to continue with the removal of tank bottom sludge;
- Tank 19 – We plan to manage the waste onsite in a box until we transport and dispose of the waste at an offsite facility;
- Tank 20 – We plan to remove the caustic sludge and transport the material to an offsite facility for treatment and disposal;
- Tank 21 - We plan to manage the waste onsite in a box until we transport and dispose of it at an offsite facility;
- Tank 22 - We plan to manage the waste onsite in a box until we transport and dispose of it at an offsite facility;
- Tank 23 - We plan to manage the waste onsite in a box until we transport and dispose of it at an offsite facility;
- Tank 24 – We plan to remove and transfer the pumpable liquids and manage the remaining waste onsite until we transport and dispose of it at an offsite facility.

B. Removal of Tank Tops & Sludge Removal

- We plan to begin the removal of caustic material from Tank 20 and dispose of it at the U.S. Ecology facility in Robstown, TX.
- We plan to begin the removal of tank tops and the removal of sludge material from Tank 24 next week.
- We plan to remove and dispose of tank metal bottoms and solids from Tanks 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24 on October 17-21, 2011.

C. Disposal of Sludge, Metal and Sediment

The material that includes metal, dry sediment and K169 listed waste, which is above the universal treatment standards will be transported and disposed of at U.S. Ecology. This material includes the metal from Tanks 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24.

The tank liquids that exceed the treatment standards will be transferred into Tank 26.

The waste solids and caustic material in Tank 20 will be sent to U.S. Ecology for treatment and thermal desorption on October 17-21, 2011.

D. Demolition / Relocation of Structures

None anticipated next week.

E. Disposal of Fiberglass Insulation from Tank 20 and Tank 24

The fiberglass insulation that is part of Tank 20 and Tank 24 will be placed in a box that is presently at the facility. That material will be classified as Class II non-hazardous waste. The material will be transported to BFI's El Centro Facility in Robstown, TX for disposal.

F. Recycling of Aluminum from Insulation Shroud

The aluminum that comprises the shroud that insulates Tank 20 and Tank 24 will be transported for recycling in Corpus Christi, TX.

5. ISSUES ENCOUNTERED

- None this week